(c) It is a fact that production of iodised salt has not reached the optimum level. The main reasons for this is that many States/ Union Territories are yet to ban completely the sale of non-iodised salt. In the absence of such ban orders there is not much demand for iodised salt in these areas. This discourages the manufacturers of iodised salt to boost up their production.

The Central Government has written to all States/UT Administration, who have not so far issued notifications banning the use of non-iodised salt for edible purpose in their States/UTs, to issue such notifications without any further delay.

The Government is also prevailing upon the iodised salt manufacturers to increase their production.

Blood to a Child Patient

1203. DR. BAPU KALDATE :
SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report appearing in the Statesman dated 9th November, 1991 regarding gross carelessness of the city hospital doctors in administering donor's blood to a child patient without waiting for the analysis report resulting in the child's getting AIDS; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA) : (a) Government has seen the news item.

(b) 100 cc fresh blood from the mother was given to a critically ill child to save her life in Swami Dayanand Hospital, Shahdara. The Hospital authorities sent the blood of the mothor for confirmatory HIV testing at NICD, Delhi, which is a reference Laboratory. The blood was found negative for HIV infection.

Ban on Ayurvedic Medicines

1204. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Sidhda has demanded that "KARPOORASAVA" and several other Ayurvedic medicines should not be banned in the wage of the 'SURA' tragedy in the capital ;

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto ; and

(c) what is the number of Ayurvedic Research Organisation functioning in the country with their names, production figures per annum of total medicines and whether these are earning profits and losses etc. for the last two years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Government have not banned any Ayurvedic medicine. The Central Government have deleted the provision regarding use of "rectified spirit" as a substitute for "Prasanna" in the preparation of Karpoorasava, from the Ayurvedic Formulary of India.

(c) The Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha has 5 Central Research Institutes, 7 Regional Research Institutes, 10 Regional Research Centres, 7 major Units and 41 other Research Units of Ayurveda stationed at different parts of the country. Certain Ayurvedic drugs use in research studies are being prepared at Indian Institute of Kayachikitsa, Patiala, Indian Institute of Panchkarma, Cheruthuruthy, Regional Research Institute, Calcutta and Trivendrum on no profit no loss basis. The drugs are not commercialised.

Sale of banned drugs

1205. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the drugs alongwith the names of the manufacturing companies whose sale has been banned in the country during the last three months; and

(b) the reasons for which the sale has been banned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA) : (a) and (b) Section 26-A of the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 empowers the Central Government to prohibit manufacture and sale of drugs in public interest.

During the last three months Central Government have *not* banned any drng in the country, in exercise of this power.